

REMARKS

The present application has pending claims 15 and 16.

The disclosure stands objected to due to informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 1a of the Office Action. Amendments were made to the specification to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. Therefore, this objection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claims 15 and 16 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of prior Patent No. 6,618,372. Applicants do not agree with this rejection. However, in order to expedite prosecution of the present application filed on even date herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer obviating this rejection. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the filing of the Terminal Disclaimer was not intended nor should it be considered as an agreement on Applicants part that the features of the present invention as recited in claims 15 and 16 are taught or suggested by claim 1 of the prior patent. The filing of the Terminal Disclaimer was simply intended to expedite prosecution of the present application.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 15 and 16 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 15 and 16 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (500.25179CP5).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl I. Brundidge', is written over a horizontal line.

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